



NORTH CAROLINA
Department of Transportation



Strategic Transportation Corridors

Corridor D: U.S. 321 and Corridor U: U.S. 74

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Agenda

U.S. 321

- Data Collection Review
- Corridor Analysis Review
- Preliminary Corridor Vision

U.S. 74

- Data Collection Review
- Corridor Analysis Review
- Preliminary Corridor Vision

- Stakeholder Involvement for U.S. 321 and U.S. 74

U.S. 321 - Facilities Inventory

- Highway assets inventory
 - Approximately 106 miles along highway corridor
 - Federally designated truck route from S.C. state line to I-85 in Gastonia and from I-40 in Hickory to US 64 in Lenoir
- Bridges inventory
 - 67 bridges along highway corridor
 - 3 structurally deficient; 12 functionally obsolete

U.S. 321 - Transportation Plan Recommendations

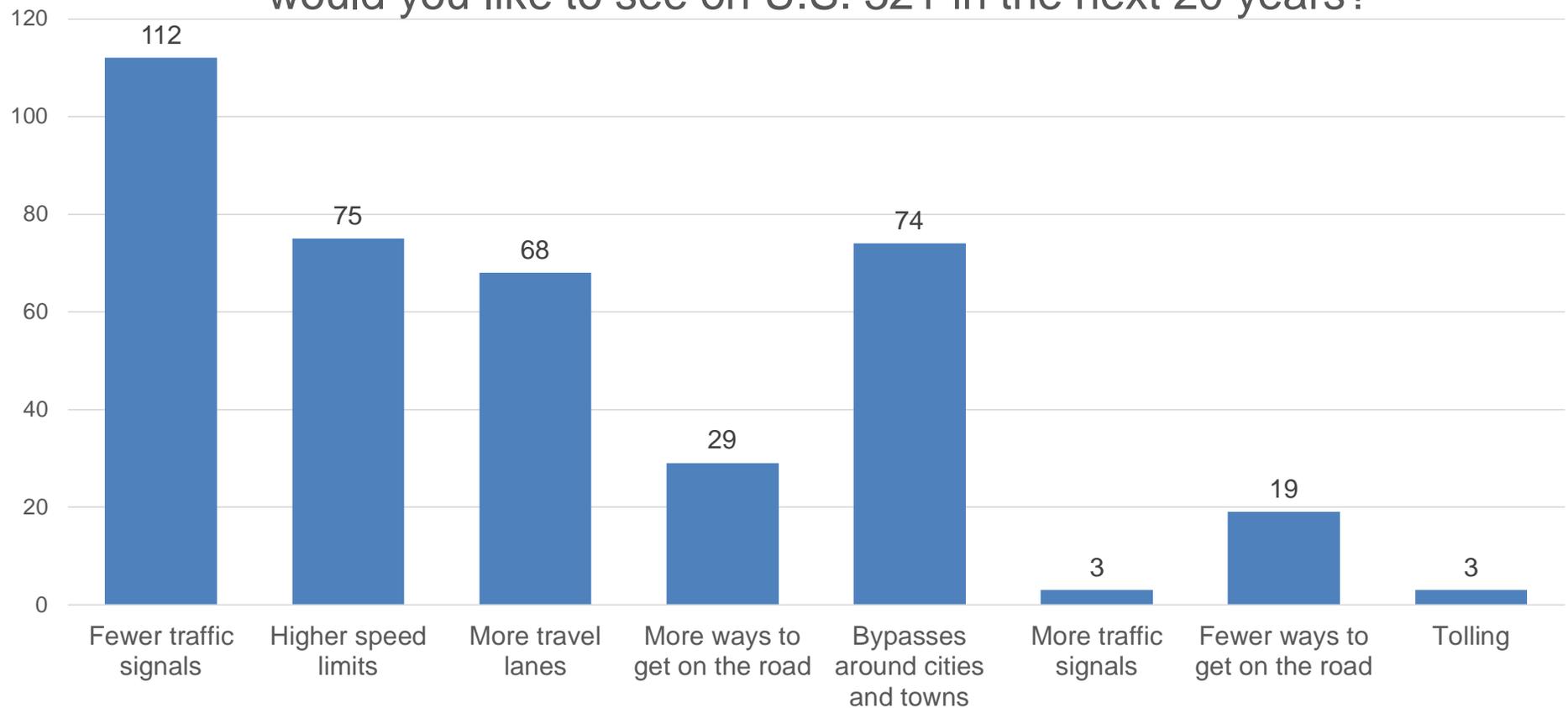
- Compiled transportation plans and recommended projects along the corridor from:
 - Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP): 18 projects
 - Comprehensive Transportation Plans (CTPs): 4 CTPs
 - Metropolitan Transportation Plans (MTPs): 2 MTPs
 - Feasibility Studies (FS): 3 within the past 10 years
 - Traffic Forecasts (TF): 12 with the past 5 years
- Most of corridor recommended to be classified as expressway
 - South of Gastonia recommended to be classified as boulevard
 - Gastonia to Hickory recommended to be classified as freeway

U.S. 321 – Public Survey Results

Views 609	Participants 253	Responses 3,734	Comments 44
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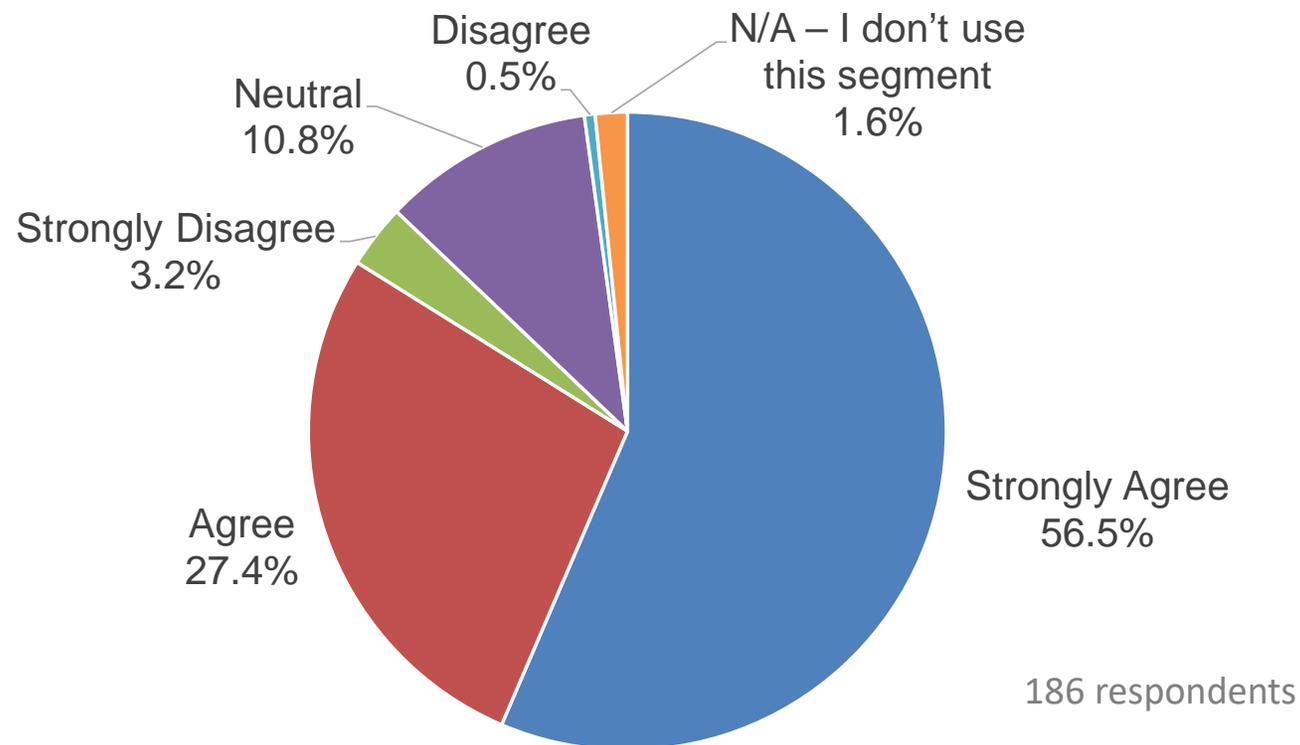
U.S. 321 – Public Survey Results

From the **South Carolina state line to Hickory**, what changes would you like to see on U.S. 321 in the next 20 years?



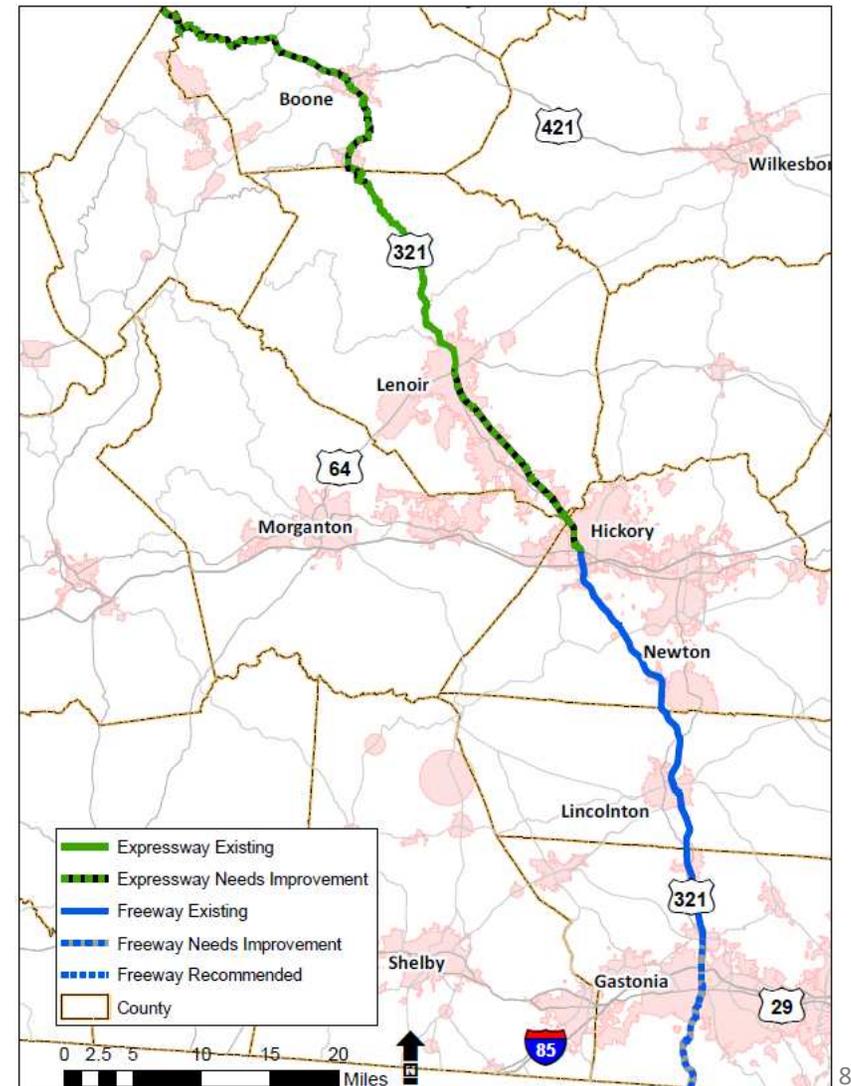
U.S. 321 – Public Survey Results

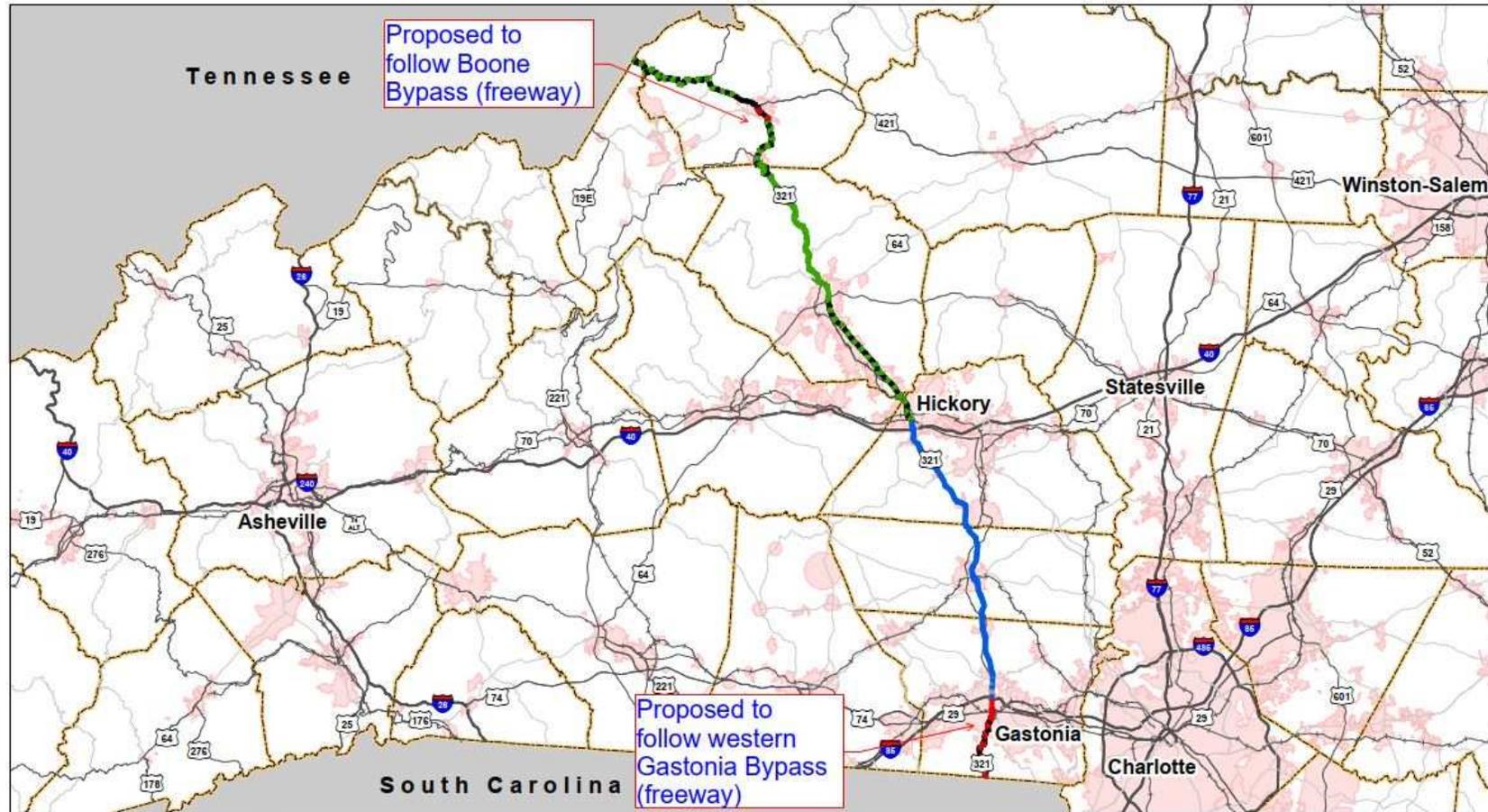
From the **South Carolina state line to Hickory**, do you support the preliminary vision of a freeway (access only at interchanges/ramps, speed limit 55 or greater, no traffic signals)?



U.S. 321 – Recommended Vision

- Freeway: South Carolina state line to U.S. 70 in Hickory
- Expressway: U.S. 70 in Hickory to Tennessee the Tennessee state line





Proposed to follow Boone Bypass (freeway)

Proposed to follow western Gastonia Bypass (freeway)

NC STRATEGIC TRANSPORTATION CORRIDORS (STC)
 DECEMBER 2019
 Source: NCOneMap, NCDOT GIS, ESRI

Legend

Freeway Existing	Expressway Needs Improvement	Interstate	Counties
Freeway Needs Improvement	Boulevard Existing	US Route	Municipal Boundaries
Freeway Recommended	Boulevard Needs Improvement	NC Highway	
Expressway Existing	Other Major Thoroughfare Existing	Rail	

STRATEGIC TRANSPORTATION CORRIDORS CHANGES TO CURRENT PLANS
 CORRIDOR D (US 321)

U.S. 321 - Mobility Analysis

HIGHWAY MOBILITY BENEFITS

STC CORRIDOR D

US 321 – FROM SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LINE TO TENNESSEE STATE LINE

AVERAGE TRAVEL SPEED



2018 EXISTING



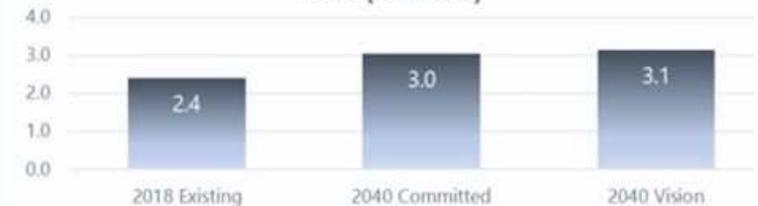
2040 COMMITTED



2040 VISION

VEHICLE-MILES TRAVELED

VMT (Millions)



RECOMMENDED PROJECTS REDUCE FUTURE TRAVEL DELAY BY OVER **80%**

AVERAGE CORRIDOR TRAVEL TIME (HOURS)

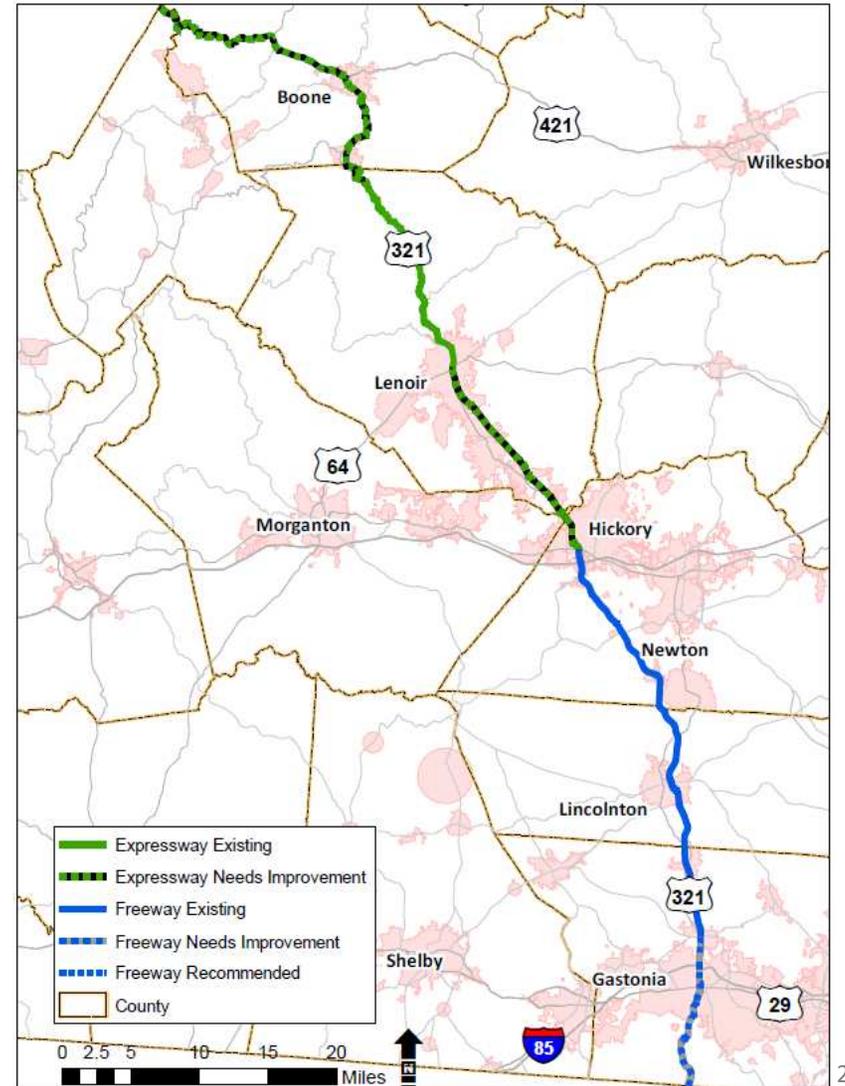


Increases the average corridor travel speed by 12mph

U.S. 321 – Identified for Further Study

- Expressway improvements northwest of Boone and the connection at the Tennessee state line
- Boone Bypass
- Expressway Improvements between Boone and Blowing Rock
- Freeway Improvements in Gastonia
- Freeway Improvements south of Gastonia and the connection at the South Carolina state line
- Multimodal connections
- Resiliency Assessment

US 321 Questions?



U.S. 74 - Facilities Inventory

- Highway assets inventory
 - Approximately 284 miles along highway corridor
 - Federally designated truck route along entire corridor
- Bridges inventory
 - 304 bridges along highway corridor
 - 6 structurally deficient; 91 functionally obsolete

U.S. 74 - Transportation Plan Recommendations

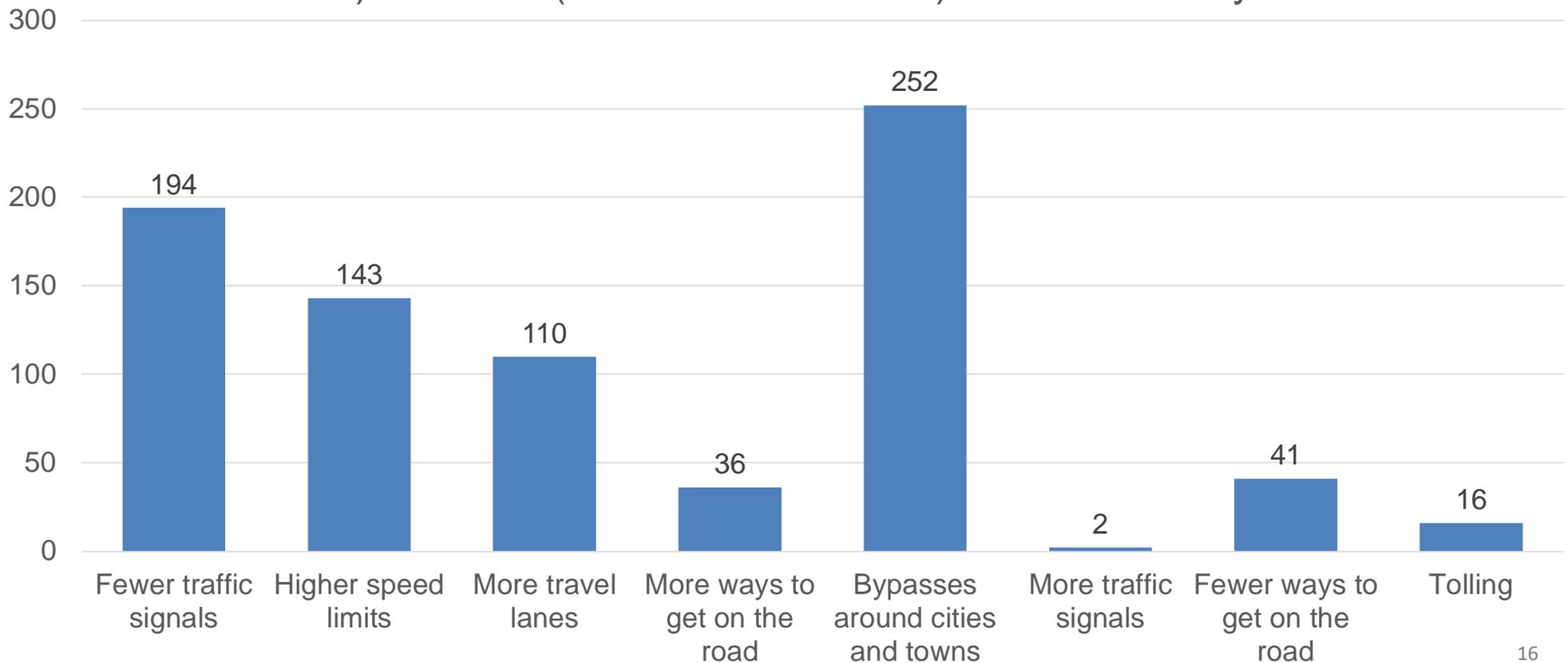
- Compiled transportation plans and recommended projects along the corridor from:
 - Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP): 70 projects
 - Comprehensive Transportation Plans (CTPs): 11 CTPs
 - Metropolitan Transportation Plans (MTPs): 3 MTPs
 - Feasibility Studies (FS): 6 within past 10 years
 - Traffic Forecasts (TF): 37 within past 10 years
- Most of corridor recommended to be classified as freeway
 - Some segments in developed/urban areas recommended to be classified as boulevard (with current or planned bypass)

U.S. 74 – Public Survey Results

Views 1,524	Participants 638	Responses 8,260	Comments 155
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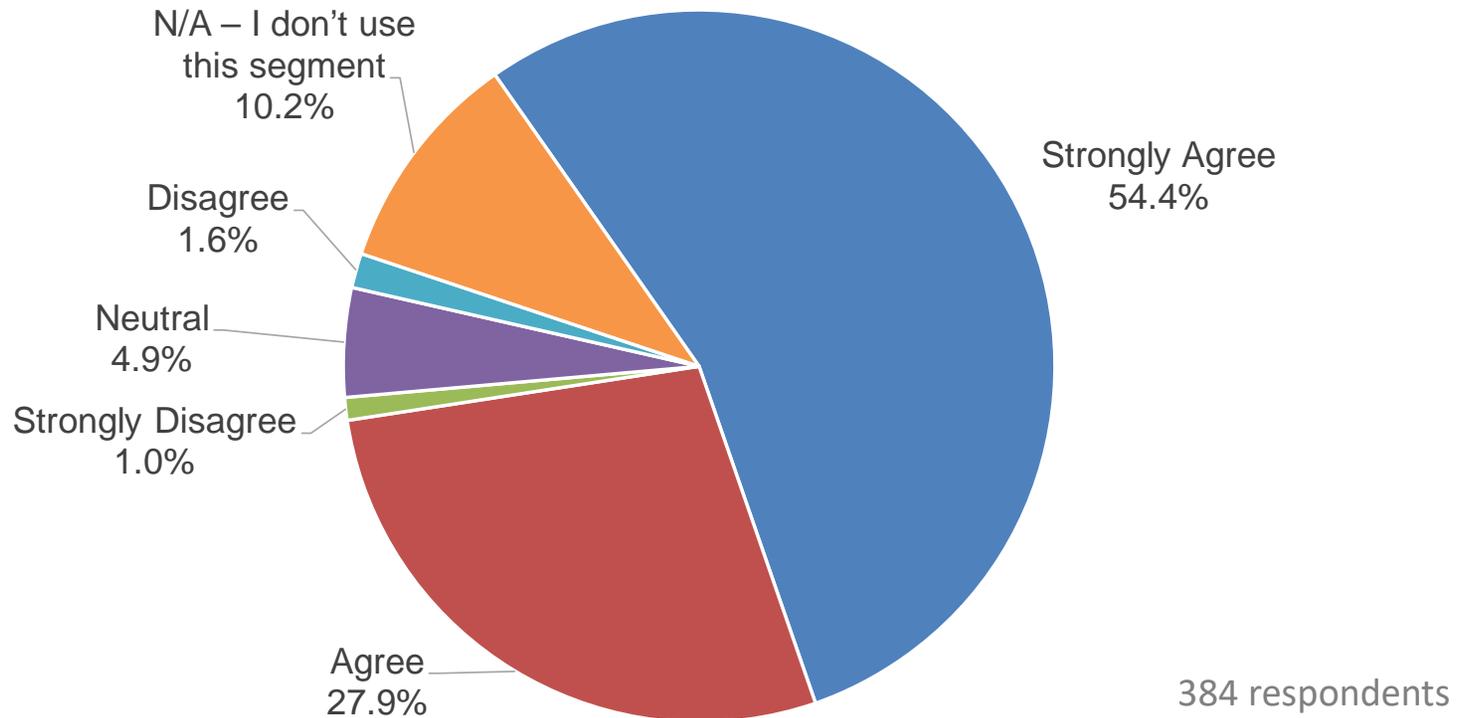
U.S. 74 – Public Survey Results

From I-26 to Gastonia, what changes would you like to see on U.S. 74 (I-26 to I-85) and I-85 (U.S. 74 to U.S. 321) in the next 20 years?



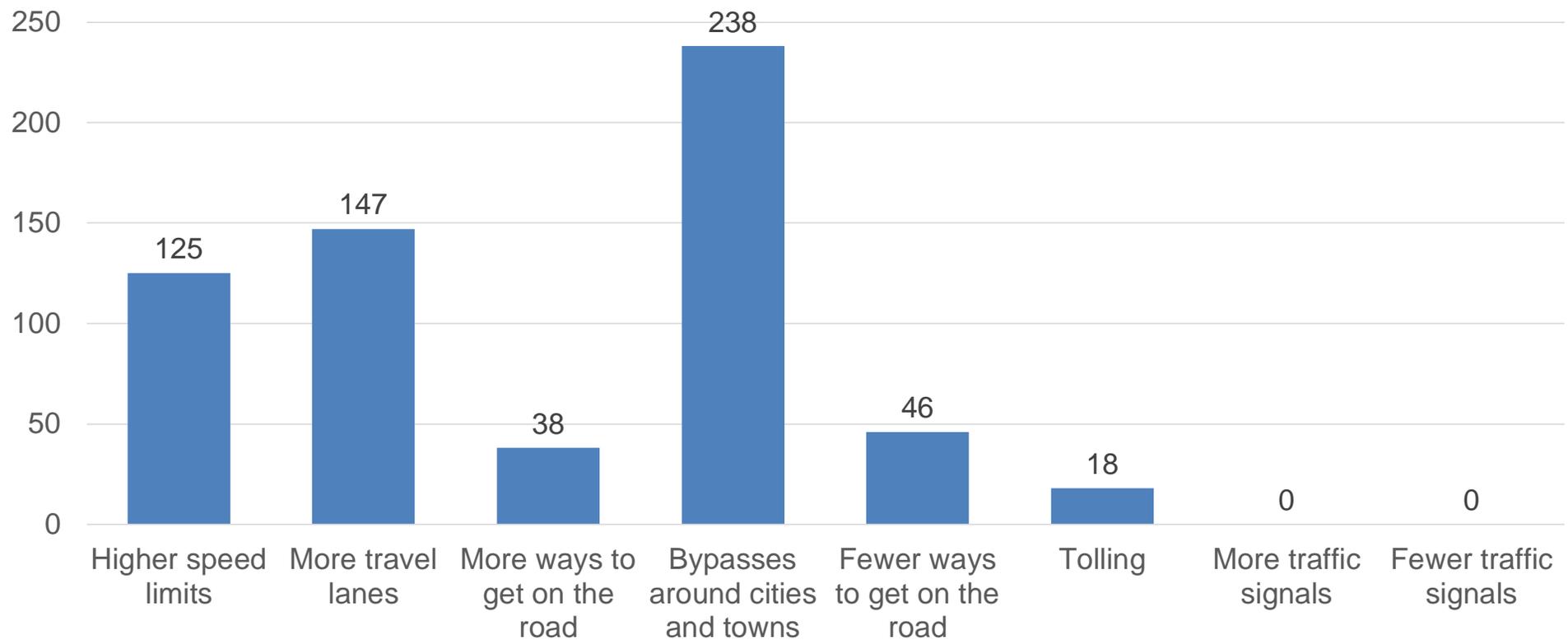
U.S. 74 – Public Survey Results

From I-26 to Gastonia, do you support the preliminary vision of a freeway (access only at interchanges/ramps, speed limit 55 or greater, no traffic signals) on U.S. 74 (I-26 to I-85) and I-85 (U.S. 74 to U.S. 321)?



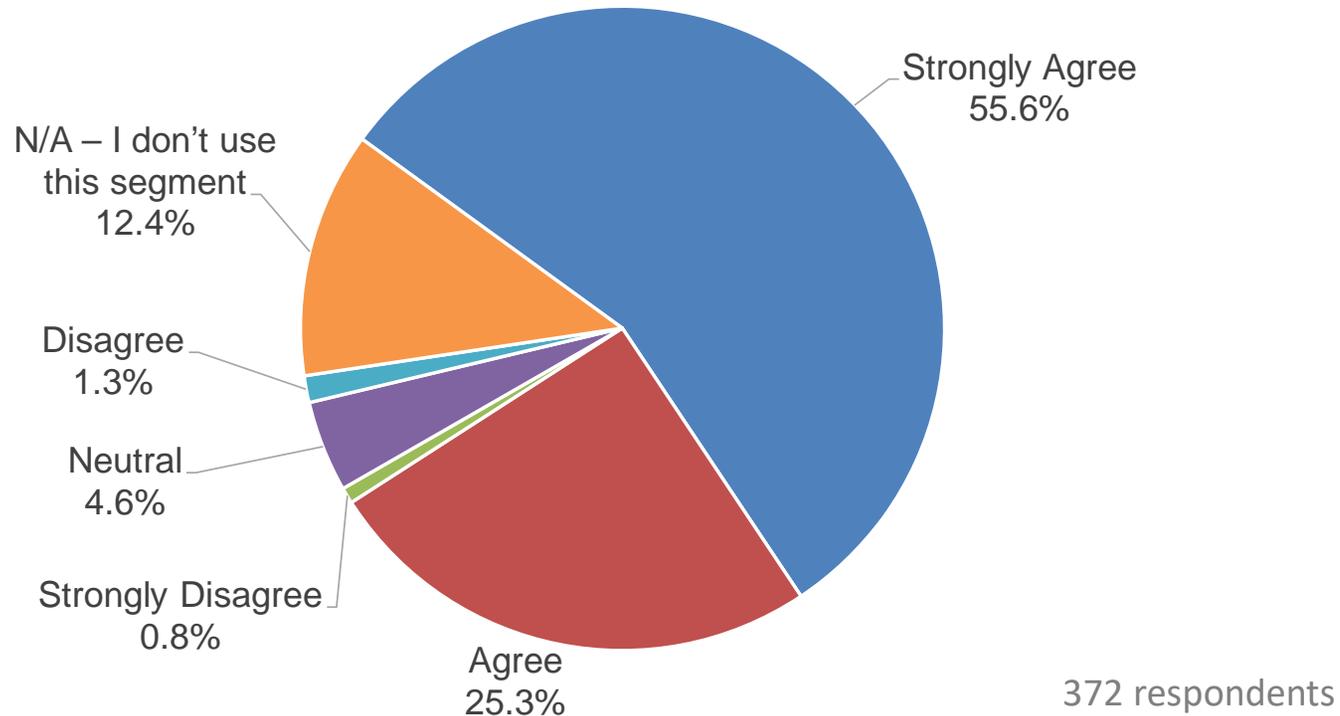
U.S. 74 – Public Survey Results

From Gastonia to Monroe, what changes would you like to see on the corridor I-85 (U.S. 321 to I-485) and I-485 (I-85 to U.S. 74) in the next 20 years?



U.S. 74 – Public Survey Results

From Gastonia to Monroe, do you support the preliminary vision of a freeway (access only at interchanges/ramps, speed limit 55 or greater, no traffic signals) on I-85 (U.S. 321 to I-485) and I-485 (I-85 to U.S. 74)?



U.S. 74 – Recommended Vision



- Freeway: I-26 in Polk County to US 117 in New Hanover County

U.S. 74 - Mobility Analysis

HIGHWAY MOBILITY BENEFITS

STC CORRIDOR U

U.S. 74 – FROM I-26 IN POLK COUNTY TO

I-40 IN WILMINGTON

AVERAGE TRAVEL SPEED

44

2018 EXISTING

40

2040 COMMITTED

61

2040 VISION

VEHICLE-MILES TRAVELED

VMT (Millions)



210 ADDITIONAL MILES OF FREEWAY PROVIDE FASTER TRAVEL TIMES WITH SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN TRAFFIC

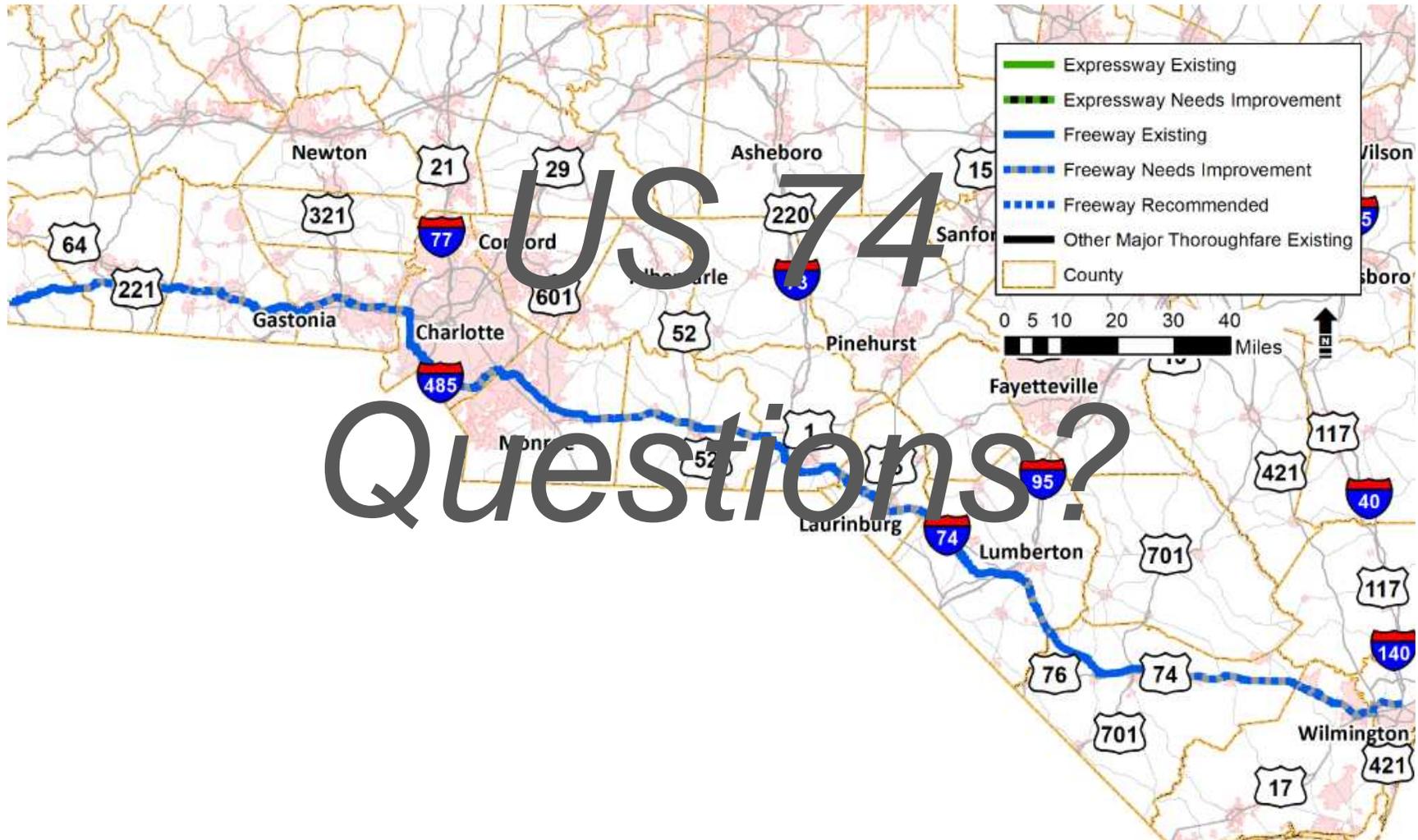
AVERAGE CORRIDOR TRAVEL TIME (HOURS)



Increases the average corridor travel speed by 21mph

U.S. 74 – Identified for Further Study

- Marshville Bypass
- Wadesboro Bypass
- Military Connections
- Delco area in Columbus County
- Multimodal connections
- Resiliency Assessment



US 74
Questions?

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